



# Maryland Agriculture Data

## Weekly Crop and Weather Report

**2002**  
**CENSUS OF**  
**AGRICULTURE**

MD-CW3402

November 18, 2002

### Soybean Harvest Half Complete

Although significantly behind, **soybean harvest** is just over halfway complete at 55 percent, 38 percent behind last year, and 26 percent behind the five year average. The average suggests that soybeans should be 81 percent harvested by now, but recent wet weather conditions have made progress difficult. Concern is growing over the soybean quality as the unharvested crop remains in soggy soil. Reports indicate that mold and wet weed material such as grass and chick weed may be decreasing yield. This year's crop may not yield high enough quality beans to be used for seed.

Last week, rain fell off and on with the most precipitation accumulated over the weekend. Maryland farmers had only 2.2 **days suitable for fieldwork** due to the rain and muddy soils. **Topsoil** moisture rated in surplus supply jumped 22 percent. Topsoil is rated 47 percent in surplus, 47 percent adequate, 5 percent short, and 1 percent very short. **Subsoil** moisture is rated 15 percent surplus, 55 percent adequate, 25 percent short, and 5 percent very short.

### MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 17, 2002 (PERCENT)

ITEM	THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE 1997-2001
Harvesting Progress:				
Sorghum	77	75	97	86
Soybeans	55	40	93	81
Tobacco, stripped	35	33	49	31
Small Grain Seeding:				
Winter Wheat	77	72	94	90
Hay Harvested:				
Alfalfa, 5 <sup>th</sup> cutting	43	38	75	78

### CROP CONDITION FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 17, 2002 (PERCENT)

Condition	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Barley	2	1	23	59	15
Winter Wheat	4	5	25	54	12
Range & Pasture	2	5	37	42	14

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***Coming in December***